Community Travel: Tips for Getting Around King County

This guide is a print version of a three video series created to help you travel around King County. View the videos online at www.youtube.com/user/kcmobilitycoalition. The videos and guides are available for free in multiple languages. Enjoy!

Riding the Bus





Please arrive at your bus stop at least five minutes early. When the bus arrives, look at the destination signs on the front and side. Match your route number to the route number on the bus to make sure it is the right one.



If you don't speak English, have your family write down your destination bus stop and return bus stop. Show it to the driver when you get on each bus.



When you see your bus coming, raise your hand to let the driver know you want to ride that bus. Have your fare payment ready before getting on the bus.



Seats in the front of the bus are reserved for elderly people and people with a disability. Sit where you can hear and see the bus driver.



Please keep the aisles of the bus free to allow other riders to get to their seats. Keep your bags on your lap or under the seat.







All Metro and Sound Transit buses have lifts or ramps for people using a wheelchair, scooter, walker or cane and people who have trouble climbing steps. You can only use a lift or ramp to get on and off the bus at an accessible bus stop, which will display this sticker at the bus stop. To use the lift or ramp, make eye contact with the driver to let him know that you need the lift or ramp. If you are in a wheelchair, get on the lift or ramp and then move into the area for wheelchair seats at the front of the bus. The bus driver will secure the chair for you. If you have a walker, fold up your walker and hold it after you sit down.





If you know your stop is coming, pull the signal cord that runs along the top of the window one block before the stop to let the driver know you want off the bus. Some buses may have yellow stripes instead of cords. Please wait for the bus to stop before standing up to get off. This will prevent you from falling.



If you use a wheelchair, press the yellow pushbutton strip on the bottom of the flip-up seats in the wheelchair area. Once the bus comes to a stop, wait for the driver to come back and remove your wheelchair securements.





King County Metro and Sound Transit provide free training on how to ride the bus for seniors and people with disabilities.

206-749-4242



Hopelink provides training for groups of people on how to ride the bus. Their program is called Ride Around the Sound and is for low-income individuals, people with limited English skills, and veterans. **425-943-6760**



Alternate Formats & Languages Available

This material is available in accessible formats and other languages upon request:

- English
- Russian
- Amharic
- Somali
- Burmese
- Spanish
- Nepali
- Tigrinya

Please call 425-943-6737 (voice) or 711 (TTY Relay). Telephone interpretation is available.

More Information

If you have questions, please call these numbers:

Sound Transit Information Line 1-800-201-4900

Metro
Information Line
206-553-3000

Thank you!

We hope to see you soon on the bus and using other local transportation.

King County Mobility Coalition 425-943-6737

King County

MOBILITY COALITION

Community Travel Tips is a project of the King County Mobility Coalition, developed to raise awareness about how to use public transportation in King County. This project was made possible with support from the Bhutanese Community Resource Center, City of Kent, Coalition for Refugees from Burma, Hopelink, Jewish Family Service, King County Housing Authority, King County Metro, National Center for Senior Transportation, Salaam Urban Village Association, SeaMar Community Health Centers, Senior Services, Somali Community Services of Seattle, Sound Transit, UW Medicine-Harborview Medical Center, and Washington State Refugee Elder Grant.

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Paying to Ride the Bus or Light Rail





You can pay to ride Metro buses, Sound Transit buses and Sound Transit light rail trains with cash. If you pay to ride the bus with cash, put your money in the farebox next to the driver. You will need the exact amount. Drivers do not provide change.



If you pay to ride the light rail train with cash, you need to purchase tickets from the ticket vending machine at the train station. You cannot purchase tickets on board.



If you ride more than one Metro bus to reach your destination, you can pay with a transfer ticket on the second bus.



Please ask for a transfer when you pay your fare on the first bus. If you do not speak English, have your family write "Transfer Please" on a piece of paper and show the driver. When you get on the next bus, show the driver your transfer.



Transfers are only valid on Metro buses. You cannot use a transfer to change between Metro buses and Sound Transit buses or light rail trains.



Travelling is easier on buses and light rail trains when you use the ORCA card to pay your fare. You can buy an ORCA card at Metro's Customer Service Office located at **201 S. Jackson St.** in **Seattle** or at the ticket vending machine at light rail train stations.

You can also order the ORCA card online at **www.orcacard.com** or by mail by calling **1-888-988-6722**. The ORCA card does not work until you add money or a monthly pass into it.

Please add money to your ORCA card online, by mail, at bus or light rail train station vending machines, or at many QFC, Safeway and Saar's Marketplace grocery stores.



To pay for the bus using an ORCA card, tap the ORCA card once on the reader inside the bus when you get on. If you pay with an ORCA card, you do not need to ask the driver for a transfer.





To pay for the light rail train using on ORCA card, tap the ORCA card on the yellow card reader on the train platform before boarding. It is very important to remember that you also need to tap your card on the reader when you get off the train.







If you are 65 years or older, it is best to get an ORCA Reduced Fare Permit. You can apply for one at Metro's Customer Service Office or by mail. With an ORCA Reduced Fare Permit, buses and light rail train rides only cost 75 cents. If you are younger than 65 years and have a disability, you can also apply for an ORCA Reduced Fare Permit. After a health care professional completes the application, you need to go to Metro's Customer Service Office with photo identification.

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Metro
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206-553-3000

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Other Ways to Travel







Senior Services Hyde Shuttles provide free van service for seniors 55 years or older and people with disabilities of any age. The vans operate Monday through Friday and take people anywhere they need to go within their local neighborhood. The neighborhoods they serve are Seattle, Renton, Burien, Des Moines, Shoreline, and the Snoqualmie Valley. **206-727-6262**



Senior Services Volunteer Transportation is a free service provided by volunteer drivers who use their own cars to take seniors 60 years or older to their medical appointments. The drivers offer not only a ride but wait with seniors at their appointments before returning them home safely.

206-448-5740







If you are going to a medical appointment **Hopelink's Transportation Division** may be able to help. Hopelink offers transportation assistance for Medicaid patients, including bus tickets, gas cards, parking assistance, taxis, and vans with lifts.

Call this number for more information. Interpreters are available to help with your call. **1-800-923-7433**







Metro Access Transportation provides a van service for people who have a disability that prevents them from riding the bus. You share your van ride with other customers. You need to fill out an application that includes an in-person evaluation to see if you are unable to use the bus. **206-263-3113**



Yellow Cab has Wheelchair Accessible Taxis for people unable to get in and out of taxis without help. Please let them know that you need a wheelchair accessible taxi when you call. 1-800-923-7433





Taxi Scrip is used like cash to pay the taxi driver the meter fare at the end of your trip. It lets you pay half price on taxi fares; a \$10 taxi ride only costs \$5. If you have an ORCA Reduced Fare Permit and are also low-income, you can fill out an application for Taxi Scrip. Then you can you can buy Taxi Scrip every month from King County Metro.

Metro Customer Service: 206-553-3000

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